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The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D.C. 20505

Intelligence Research and Development Council

1/17/82

Admiral B. R. Inman
Deputy Director of Central Intelligence
Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear Admiral Inman:

As we begin to converge on a refined space policy for the United States, I want to keep you apprised of the activities of the Intelligence Research and Development Council as they might impact on that policy. As you are aware, we have a task force of the Council preparing a report on "Technology Initiatives for Shuttle Use in the Later 1980s." Although it is not due to be completed until February, I asked Bob Hermann to give me a preliminary readout of the spectrum of shuttle uses likely to be advocated for serious consideration.

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We need to insure that our space policy preserves the option to conduct these activities. It is my impression that discussions between our staffs and J. Keyworth's are accounting for these provisions in the present drafting process.

One final note: In the event that efforts are made to negotiate a treaty barring conventional weapons in space, a verification dilemma appears to emerge in that any verification system capable of approaching and inspecting suspect space objects will have most of the capabilities needed to destroy legitimate objects. At the moment, I see no provision of the space policy development process which runs the risk of causing additional problems in this dimension, but it may be a troublesome issue at some point.

Sincerely,

/s/

R. D. DeLauer
Chairman

cc: Director of Central Intelligence
Director, Intelligence Community Staff
Director, National Reconnaissance Office